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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3371  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE  
RUCNIRA/IRAN COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 001245

SIPDIS

NEA/IR FOR SPRING

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/28/2024

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [PROP](#) [CASC](#) [IR](#) [AU](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN UPDATE ON AMCIT HIKERS DETAINED IN IRAN

REF: VIENNA 1243 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Econ/Pol Counselor Dean Yap. Reason: 1.4(b) and (d).

(C) Austrian MFA Middle East Director Stift reported Sept. 28 that Amb. Postl had delivered letters from the mothers of the detained hikers to the office of Supreme Leader Khamanei on Sunday, Sept. 27. Based on conversations with a range of contacts, Postl had "great confidence" that the hikers would be released within the next two weeks. He was told explicitly that Iranian security services had determined that the hikers had entered Iran accidentally and posed no security risk and that the three were in good health.  
EACHO